

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

1 **DOUG LITTLE** 2 Chairman 3 **BOB STUMP** Commissioner 4 **BOB BURNS** Commissioner TOM FORESE 5 Commissioner ANDY TOBIN 6 Commissioner 7 8 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION DOCKET NO. E-04204A-12-0504 OF UNS ELECTRIC, INC. FOR THE 75593 DECISION NO. 9 ESTABLISHMENT OF JUST AND REASONABLE RATES AND CHARGES **ORDER** 10 DESIGNED TO REALIZE A REASONABLE RATE OF RETURN ON 11 THE FAIR VALUE OF THE PROPERTIES OF UNS ELECTRIC, INC. DEVOTED TO 12 ITS OPERATIONS THROUGHOUT THE 13 STATE OF ARIZONA AND FOR Arizona Corporation Commission **RELATED APPROVALS** DOCKETED 14 JUN 2 7 2016 15 Open Meeting DOCKETED BY 16 June 14, 2016 and June 15, 2016 Phoenix, Arizona 17 18 BY THE COMMISSION:

FINDINGS OF FACT

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- UNS Electric, Inc. ("UNS Electric" or "Company") is certificated to provide electric service as a public service corporation in the State of Arizona.
- 2. On April 15, 2016, UNS Electric, Inc. filed an application with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") requesting approval of its annual Lost Fixed Cost Recovery Mechanism ("LFCR") adjustment, effective July 1, 2016. The LFCR allows for the recovery of lost fixed costs, as measured by revenue per kWh, associated with the amount of energy efficiency ("EE") savings and distributed generation ("DG") that is authorized by the Commission and determined to have occurred.

3. UNS Electric is requesting that the LFCR rate be set at 0.9394 percent for energy efficiency and 0.2424 percent for distributed generation.

Description of the LFCR

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4. In Decision No. 74235 (December 31, 2013), the Commission approved the LFCR which provides for the recovery of lost fixed costs, as measured by a reduction in non-fuel revenue, associated with the amount of EE savings and DG that is authorized by the Commission and determined to have occurred. Costs to be recovered through the LFCR include the portion of transmission and distribution costs included in base rates exclusive of the Customer Charge and 50 percent of the demand rates in effect.

- 5. The LFCR also includes an annual 1 percent year-over-year cap based on Applicable Company Revenues ("ACR"). If the annual incremental LFCR adjustment results in a surcharge in excess of 1 percent, in total, of ACR, any amount in excess of the 1 percent cap will be deferred for collection until the next year. Any deferred amounts will be collected in a subsequent year or rolled into the next rate case, whichever occurs first. Where the 1 percent cap limits the recovery of deferrals in any program year, and thus moves their recovery to the following year, a first-in, first-out ("FIFO") approach will be applied. In connection therewith, the new surcharges billed in the following year will first recover any such carried-over deferrals, and then recover new deferrals arising in that following year. The one-year Nominal Treasury Constant Maturities rate contained in the Federal Reserve Statistical Release H-15 or its successor publication will be applied annually to any deferred balance. The interest rate shall be adjusted annually and shall be that annual rate applicable to the first business day of the calendar year.
- 6. The Plan of Administration ("POA") describes how the LFCR operates. By May 15th of each year, UNS Electric will file the calculated Annual LFCR adjustments, including all Compliance Reports, with the Commission for the previous year. Staff will use its best efforts to process the matter based on the results of the Company's annual EE/DSM and Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff ("REST") filing such that the new LFCR Adjustments may go into effect by July 1st of each year. However, the new LFCR Adjustments will not go into effect until approved by the Commission.

Staff Recommendations

11. Staff recommends LFCR rates of 0.9394 percent for EE and 0.2424 percent for DG be approved and become effective July 1, 2016.

7. In Decision No. 74694, the Commission approved an amendment of the POA to include the addition of a Balancing Account. The Balancing Account permits the Company to true-up any under-collected or over-collected approved Lost Fixed Cost Revenues in the immediate 12-month collection period during the subsequent LFCR adjustment. UNS Electric's current filing includes two adjustments to the Balancing Account. The first is to account for a miscalculation regarding energy efficiency savings for CFL bulbs that affected 2013 and 2014 energy efficiency figures. The second is to true up LFCR calculations that were estimated in the Company's previous filing for March-June of 2015.

8. Residential customers can choose a Fixed Cost Option instead of the variable LFCR adjustment. The optional fixed rate consists of an incremental charge added to the monthly Customer Charge in the applicable residential rate schedule. Any dollars paid for the incremental charge will be used to reduce the total Lost Fixed Cost Revenue recovered as part of the LFCR adjustment. To date, no UNS Electric customers have chosen this option.

Staff Analysis

- 9. Staff has reviewed the data UNS Electric used in the calculation of the LFCR rate. Staff has found that the LFCR percentages are calculated in accordance with the POA as approved by the Commission. This calculation is shown in Schedules 1 through 5 (Attachment A) of the application. Staff has also reviewed the additional adjustments to the Balancing Account and found them to be appropriate. According to the calculations, and in accordance with the POA, the LFCR charge would be 0.9394 percent for EE and 0.2424 percent for DG, resulting in an approximate recovery of \$1,960,408 for the 12-month collection period beginning July 1, 2016.
- 10. UNS Electric provided bill impact calculations for residential customers subject to the LFCR, and has calculated that for the average residential customer, using an average of 850 kWh per month, the customer's bill would increase by \$0.29 per month.

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12. Staff further recommends that UNS Electric file a revised Statement of Charges consistent with the Decision in this matter within 15 days of the effective date of the Decision.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. UNS Electric, Inc. is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV, section 2 of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-250,40-251,40-367,40-202,40-321, and 40-361.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over UNS Electric, Inc. and the subject matter discussed herein.
- 3. The Commission, having reviewed the filing and Staff's Memorandum dated June 9, 2016, concludes that it is in the public interest to grant approval as proposed and discussed herein.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Lost Fixed Cost Revenue rates of 0.9394 percent for Energy Efficiency and 0.2424 percent for Distributed Generation are hereby approved for UNS Electric, Inc. and shall become effective July 1, 2016.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that UNS Electric shall file a revised Statement of Charges consistent with the Decision in this matter within 30 days of the effective date of the Decision.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

BY THE ØRDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONEI

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, JODI JERICH, Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this day of June, 2016.

JODI JERICH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DISSENT:

DISSENT:

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COMMISSIÓNER

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Decision No. _____

| 1 | SERVICE LIST FOR: UNS Electric, Inc. DOCKET NO. E-04204A-12-0504 | |
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| 2 | | |
| 3 | Mr. Eric Lacey 1025 Thomas Jefferson St, NW, 8th FL West Tower Washington, DC 20007 | Mr. Dwight Nodes Chief Administrative Law Judge, Hearing Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street |
| 4 | | |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | Mr. Michael Patten Snell and Wilmer, LLP | Phoenix, AZ 85007 |
| 7 | One Arizona Center 400 E. Van Buren St., Suite 1900 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 | |
| 8 | | |
| 10 | Mr. Daniel Pozefsky RUCO | |
| 11 | 1110 West Washington, Suite 220 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 | |
| 12 | Mr. Robert Metli 2398 E. Camelback Rd., Ste. 240 Phoenix, Arizona 85016 | |
| 13 | | |
| 14 | Mr. Bradley Carroll TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY 88 E. Broadway Blvd. HQE910 | |
| 15 16 | | |
| 17 | Tucson, Arizona 85702 | |
| 18 | Ms. Melissa Morales TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY | |
| 19 | 88 E. Broadway Blvd. HQE910 Tucson, Arizona 85702 | |
| 20 | Mr. Thomas M. Broderick | |
| 21 | Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007 Ms. Janice M. Alward Chief Counsel, Legal Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix Arizona 85007 | |
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Decision No. 75593